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FOR FURTHER GROWTH OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ECONOMY

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(Conference for Discussion of the Plan of Instructions for  
Preparing the Sixth Five-Year Plan for Development of  
Communications Facilities)

From 22 to 27 September there was convened a conference called by the Ministry of Communications USSR for discussion of the plan of instructions for preparing the sixth five-year plan for development of the communications economy of the USSR in 1956-1960.

Taking part in the conference were the leading workers and engineering technical workers of branch administrations of the ministries of communications of the USSR and the RSFSR, design, scientific research, and scientific institutes, plants of the Administration of Industrial Enterprises of the Ministry of Communications USSR, the ministers of communications of the union republics and their representatives, production innovators, and workers of the communications enterprises of Moscow.

In opening the conference, I. V. Kolkov (representative of the Ministry of Communications USSR) noted that in the work of the Ministry of Communications there have also occurred the substantial shortcoming pointed out by the TsK KPSS [Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union] and the Council of Ministers USSR in preparing the five-year plans. The present conference was called in order to avoid them in preparing the sixth five-year plan.

K. Ya. Sergeychuk, as the first reporting representative of the Ministry of Communications USSR, gave a report on the plan of instructions for preparation of the sixth five-year plan for development of the communications economy of the USSR.

He mentioned the preliminary results of fulfilment of the fifth five-year plan for development of communications facilities and introduction of new techniques, and he gave data characterizing the great work performed by communications workers during the five-year plan. At the same time he pointed out that the present level of development of the communications economy does not meet the increasing requirements of the national economy and the population. In their technical level individual forms of communication lag behind the development of communications facilities in foreign countries. Comrade Sergeychuk went on to speak of the basic tasks stemming from the decisions of the July Plenum of the TsK KPSS and confronting the organs of communications. He spoke of the technical policy for further development of all branches of communications in the forthcoming five-year plan.

In discussing the presented plan of instructions, emphasized the speaker, we must pay special attention to matters of fuller use of production and technical possibilities of equipment, further compositing of existing open-wire and cable communications, the introduction of advanced techniques, as well as the maximum utilization of internal reserves and the newest methods of work organization at enterprises.

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The participants of the conference showed much activity in discussing the plan of instructions. At the plenary sessions and in the section meetings more than a hundred persons spoke. Among those addressing the plenary sessions were: I. V. Klovov and A. S. Kakunin (representatives of the Ministry of Communications USSR); I. I. Semenov, B. P. Stepanov, A. N. Arutyunov, N. I. Bakhgorskiy (leaders of administrations and departments of the Ministry of Communications USSR), V. A. Zhiganov (chairman of the Central Committee of the Communications Workers' Trade Union); the ministers of communications of the union republics, A. V. Cherenkov (RSFSR), M. A. Sharkov (Uzbek SSR), A. A. Noskov (Kazakh SSR), G. A. Khristesashvili (Georgian SSR), N. M. Belyanin (Lithuanian SSR), N. D. Kardashev (Moldavian SSR), T. S. Minasyants (Armenian SSR); representatives of the ministries of communications of the union republics, A. T. Tsivun (Ukrainian SSR), A. I. Viard (Estonian SSR), T. Bazarov (Tadzhik SSR), A. I. Voronin (Azerbaijdzhan SSR), K. N. Anan'yev (Kirgiz SSR); managers of enterprises, N. K. Bushuyev (Moscow Post Office), N. M. Pominov (Administration of the Moscow City Telephone Network), N. N. Shukhin (Administration of the Moscow Intercity Cable Network), N. D. Stas' (Moscow Administration of Postal Transport); B. F. Anosovich (leader of TsNITS [Central Scientific Research Institute of Communications]); V. F. Koshel' (chief engineer of Giprosvyaz' [State Communications Institute]); A. A. Vishnevskiy (dean of the engineering-economic faculty of Moscow Electrical Engineering Institute of Communications); V. I. Kon'kov (senior engineer of the laboratory of the Central Telegraph Center USSR); and others.

The speakers dealt with a number of problems associated with the development and introduction of more effective communications facilities and improved systems of broadcasting and television. They spoke of the weak introduction of radio-relay communications, the necessity for using semiconductors in communications equipment, waveguide systems for intra-city communications, balanced high-frequency cables of low capacitance for inter-city communications, wide use of the system of subscriber telegraph communications, etc. The participants of the conference emphasized that in the coming five-year plan it is possible to automatize telegraph-telephone communications in a number of most important directions. It is also necessary to bring the VRS [intra-rayon communications] network up to established technical standards and to eliminate the single-wire telephone circuits which still exist in a number of places.

The matter of increasing the productivity of labor at communications enterprises was subjected to extensive discussion. The conferees spoke of the use of reserves created as a result of providing the enterprises with new techniques. They spoke of more persistent work in the automatization and mechanization of communications facilities, broadcasting, and television, of the systematic introduction of combined servicing of equipment for electrical communications and radiofication at rayon offices, repeater points, and rural communications sections, of the development of new, progressive personnel standards, the elimination of excess personnel at enterprises, rational utilization of the work force, a well regulated system of rates, and so on.

In the speeches of a number of the conferees emphasis was placed on the urgent need for a sharp improvement in the technical equipment of postal communications, more extensive mechanization of labor-consuming work, the development of trucks suitable for difficult roads and having a lifting capacity of 1/2-3/4 ton for transport of letters and printed matter in rural areas, the construction of rural buildings for communications divisions; and so on.

In the sixth five-year plan considerable attention must be devoted to development communications facilities in rayons where such development has been delayed for one reason or another. It is also necessary to increase construction of housing and cultural establishments for communications workers.

The conference pointed out that the enormous tasks in developing communications facilities and introducing new techniques require expansion of the whole front and an increase in the quality of scientific research operations, strengthening of institutes with highly-skilled cadres, shortening the periods of developments and increasing the responsibility for their introduction.

Most of those addressing the conference approved the plan of instructions on the whole and at the same time made a number of critical remarks on it. The conferees introduced many valuable and practical proposals permitting substantial additions and development of the basic statements in the technical policy of the Ministry of Communications USSR and in the projecting of the five-year plan. This also permitted discovery of bottlenecks in the communications economy and exposure of local possibilities and internal reserves so that with the given level of capital outlays the final result will be not only the fulfilment but also the overfulfilment of the plan assignments for developing communications facilities and increasing the quality of work.

Detailed discussion of the plan of instructions was conducted in six sections: intercity telephone and telegraph communications; radio broadcasting and television; city telephone communications; intra-rayon electrical communications and radiofication; postal communications and publication distribution; industry. These sections devoted extensive discussions to the reports of I. S. Ravich (leader GUMTTS [Main Administration of Intercity Telephone and Telegraph Communications]), Yu. P. Likhushin (chief engineer GRU [Main Radio Administration]), A. M. Rezvyazkov (chief engineer OGTS [Department of City Telephone Communications]), A. A. Severov (chief engineer URES [Administration of Radiofication and Intra-Rayon Communications]), M. I. Yakushev (deputy leader GUPS [Main Administration of Postal Communications]), A. N. Arutyunov (leader UPP [Administration of Industrial Enterprises]), as well as to the recommendations for development of individual branches of communications, the training of cadres, and scientific research.

The plenary session examined and adopted the section recommendations included in the plan of instructions for the sixth five-year plan for development of the communications economy of the USSR in 1956-1960.

#### PHOTO CAPTION

At the conference for discussion of the plan of instructions for preparing the sixth five-year plan for development of communications facilities of the USSR.

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